

REQUIREMENTS FOR
SPECIALIZED SECONDARY STEM CERTIFICATE
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING
OR MATHEMATICS (STEM)
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – CERTIFICATION UNIT

➤ **Specialized STEM Education, 6-12 Certificate**

This specialized certificate is valid for 6 years and may be renewed.

Requirements for the Specialized Secondary - STEM, 6-12 certificate are:

1. Completed [Application for Certification](#)
2. Appropriate Fee (See Application for Certification)
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic). For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#) website or call (602) 223-2279.
4. A Bachelor's or more advanced degree from an accredited institution. Official transcript(s) must be submitted.
5. **One** of the following options:
 - A. **Option A** – Postsecondary teaching experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics
 - i. Have taught science, technology, engineering or mathematics courses for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private postsecondary institutions. Submit a letter on college or university letterhead, signed by a Department Chair or HR Department, documenting proof of employment from each applicable qualifying postsecondary institution, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the teaching assignment; **AND**
 - ii. Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a. A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - b. A passing score on one or more of science, technology, engineering or mathematics exams of the subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
 - B. **Option B** – Work experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics:
 - i. A passing score on the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Secondary **OR** a passing score on the AEPA Professional Knowledge Secondary exam (replaced by the NES Assessment) **AND**
 - ii. Have ten or more years of work experience in science, technology, engineering or mathematics, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable employer, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the assignment; **AND**
 - iii. Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a. A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - b. Twenty-four hours of relevant coursework in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - c. A passing score on one or more science, technology, engineering or mathematics subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
6. Structured English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement.

The SEI endorsement requires **ONE** of the following (option A, B, or C):

 - A. Official transcript documenting a three (3) semester hours State Board approved SEI course or comparable SEI training from another state.
-OR-
 - B. Certificate of training documenting completion of forty-five (45) clock hours of State Board approved SEI training or comparable SEI training from another state.
-OR-
 - C. Teachers and administrators who hold a **Full** English as a Second Language (ESL) or **Full** Bilingual Education endorsement are exempt from the SEI requirement. Note: The Provisional ESL and Provisional Bilingual endorsements will **not** meet the SEI endorsement requirement.

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➤ **RENEWAL OF SPECIALIZED SECONDARY CERTIFICATE (STEM), 6-12 CERTIFICATE**

The certificate may be renewed 6 months before it expires. All requirements for the renewal of the certificate must be met.

1. One hundred eighty (180) clock hours of professional development after the most recent issuance or renewal of the Specialized Secondary Certificate – STEM.
2. A valid Structured English Immersion, full English as a Second Language, or full Bilingual endorsement.
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic). For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](http://www.azdps.gov) website or call (602) 223-2279.